



Public Health Office,
32, South Street,
BRIDPORT,
Dorset.

June, 1944.

ABBREVIATED REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH TO THE
BRIDPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1943.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health ... Adam Armit, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector and
Surveyor ... Robert W. Armstrong, M.Inst. M. & Cy.E.
A.R.S.I.
Veterinary Surgeon (part-time). K.I. Marshall, M.R.C.V.S.
Clerk to the Medical Officer .. Miss A.M. Johnson.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Rateable Value ... £43, 597
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... £ 175

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rate per 1,000 resident population ... 13.78
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population.. 17.69

Deaths from Special Causes: -

Cancer represents the cause of 17% total deaths.
Heart Disease " " " " 29% " "

Maternal Deaths ... 1
Maternal Mortality Rate ... 11.90
(per 1,000 live and still births)
Infantile Death Rate, per 1,000 total births ... 49.38

Comparison Tables.

| | Bridport Borough. | England and Wales. | Smaller Towns. |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Birth Rate | 13.78 | 16.5 | 19.4 |
| Infantile Mortality Rate | 49.38 | 49. | 58. |
| Maternal Mortality Rate | 11.90 | 1.84 | - |
| Death Rate | 17.69 | 12.1 | 15. |

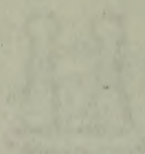
GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

There has been no alteration in the provision of general health services during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supply.

Chlorination is regularly employed at the source.
Regular samples were ~~taken~~ taken for bacteriological examination,
all of which were satisfactory.



Waterloo Bond

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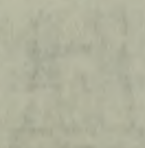
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Waterloo Bond

Sanitary Inspections.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------------------------------|
| Number of Inspections for all purposes | ... | ... | 165 |
| Number of Informal Notices | ... | 10 | Number complied with ... 9 |
| Number of Statutory Notices | ... | Nil | Number complied with ... Nil |

HOUSING

Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

| | |
|--|----|
| Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) | 50 |
| Number of Inspections made for the purpose.... | 94 |
| Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-section above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1934 | 35 |
| Number of inspections made for the purpose.... | 46 |
| Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 10 |

Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of action informally taken by the Local Authority | 9 |
|---|---|

Action under Statutory Powers.

None.

Overcrowding.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year | Not known |
|--|-----------|

New Houses.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Total number of new houses erected during the year | Nil |
| Number of flats constructed from one large house | 4 |
| Number of houses owned by the Local Authority | 237 |
| Approximate number of working class houses in the district | 1,500 |

Miscellaneous.

A number of bomb damaged houses have been repaired, and slight improvements have been effected where possible.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply.

Cowsheds and Dairies : -

| | |
|---|----|
| Number of persons on Register at end of 1943 | 25 |
| Number of Dairy Farms and other Dairy premises on Register at end of 1943 | 11 |

Milk Supply. Continued.

| | |
|---|----|
| Number of Dairy Farms inspected during 1943 | 8 |
| Number of inspections made for the purpose | 8 |
| Number of Notices served | 0 |
| Number complied with | 0 |
| Number of Milkshops inspected during the year | 5 |
| Number of inspections made for the purpose | 13 |
| Number of notices served | 0 |
| Number complied with | 0 |

Nine samples of milk being sold in the Borough were taken for bacteriological analysis.

Meat Supply.

The meat comes from a slaughterhouse in the Bridport Rural District, where all animals are slaughtered for West Dorset. The meat is inspected on these premises by a veterinary surgeon appointed for the purpose.

Food and Drugs Act.

Food stores in the district were regularly inspected and unsound articles of food were condemned.

RODENT CONTROL

West Dorset Authorities agreed to be a "workable area" under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, and a Rodent Officer was appointed on 8th November to make a survey of the Boroughs of Bridport and Lyme Regis. He completed his survey on 8th December. The survey showed the presence of : -

- 1 reservoir
- 13 light to heavy major infestations.
- 56 minor infestations.

Commencement in destroying the rats was made in December.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were forty-three cases of notifiable infectious disease in the Borough during the year, as follows: -

| | |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 17 | cases of Measles |
| 10 | " " Scarlet Fever. |
| 6 | " " Erysipelas. |
| 4 | " " Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. |
| 2 | " " Pulmonary Tuberculosis. |
| 2 | " " Whooping Cough. |
| 1 | " " Puerperal Pyrexia. |
| 1 | " " Pneumonia. |

(A table of incidence is appended)

From the Schools the following cases of infectious and other diseases were reported: -

| | |
|----|----------------------------|
| 38 | cases of Coughs and Colds. |
| 10 | " " Scabies |
| 7 | " " Impetigo |
| 5 | " " Vermin. |
| 5 | " " Whooping Cough. |
| 4 | " " Chickenpox |
| 2 | " " Scarlet Fever. |
| 2 | " " Conjunctivitis. |

SICK BAY

The Sick Bay for evacuated children in surrounding areas at "Battlecombe", Bridport has been functioning satisfactorily throughout the year. During this period 86 children have been admitted. The diseases treated were Scabies, Impetigo, German Measles, Jaundice and convalescents from various illnesses.

MINOR AILMENTS CLINIC

A Minor Ailments Clinic was held every morning at "Battlecombe" Sick Bay for treating minor ailments among the school children.

TUBERCULOSIS

There were six new cases of Tuberculosis, and four deaths, three pulmonary and one non-pulmonary case.

Table of New Cases and Mortality.

| Age Periods. | NEW CASES | | | | MORTALITY | | | |
|--------------|-----------|----|----------------|----|-----------|----|----------------|----|
| | Pulmonary | | Non-pulmonary. | | Pulmonary | | Non-pulmonary. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0 - 5 ... | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 - 15 ... | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 15 - 25 ... | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 25 - 35 ... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 35-45 ... | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| 45 - 65 ... | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| 65 and over | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTALS ... | - | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | - |

Table of Incidence of Infectious Disease.

| Disease | Total cases Under | | | | | | | | | | Over 65 | Total to Hospital. | Total Deaths. |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------------------|---------------|
| | all ages. | 1 yr. | 1-2 | 2-3 | 3-4 | 4-5 | 5-10 | 10-15 | 15-20 | 20-35 | 35-45 | 45-65 | |
| Erysipelas ... | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| Scarlet Fever .. | 10 | - | - | - | - | 5 | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 10 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ... | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Pneumonia ... | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - |
| Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.. | 4 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Measles ... | 17 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | - | 2 | 1 | 2 | - | - | 5 | - |
| Whooping Cough .. | 2 | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTALS ... | 43 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | - | 8 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 18 |

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Table showing position up to 31.12.43 in Schools (5-15 age group).

| Schools. | Total on Register Dec. 1943. | Locals. | Temp'y Resi- dents: | Total Locals Imm'd. | Total Temp'y Res: Imm'd. | Percent Locals Imm'd. |
|---|------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bridport Grammar School | 203 | 194 | 9 | 157 | 8 | 81% |
| Bridport General Senior School..... | 87 | 85 | 2 | 80 | 2 | 94% |
| Bridport General Junior School..... | 136 | 109 | 27 | 98 | 25 | 90% |
| Bridport General Infant School | 82 | 67 | 15 | 61 | 15 | 91% |
| Bridport C. of E. Senior School | 80 | 66 | 14 | 64 | 14 | 98% |
| Bridport C. of E. Junior and Infant School..... | 227 | 200 | 27 | 194 | 26 | 97% |
| The Grove School..... | 57 | 57 | - | 53 | - | 93% |
| St. Ronan's School,... | 58 | 56 | 2 | 54 | - | 96% |
| St. Wilda's School.... | 23 | 19 | 4 | 19 | 4 | 100% |
| TOTALS..... | 953 | 853 | 100 | 781 | 94 | 92% |

Approximately 47 children of the school-age (5 - 15) group completed immunisation during 1943.

Diphtheria Immunisation. Continued.

The following table shows the progress of immunisation among pre-school children during the year: -

| Month | Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. | | | | | Special Clinics. | | | |
|-----------|---|---------|-----|-------|-----|------------------|---------|-------|----|
| | 1st | Inject: | 2nd | | | 1st | Inject: | 2nd. | |
| January | ... | ... | 14 | ..... | 14 | ... | - | ..... | - |
| February | ... | ... | 8 | ..... | 16 | ... | 4 | ..... | 9 |
| March | ... | ... | 8 | ..... | 12 | ... | - | ..... | - |
| April | ... | ... | 4 | ..... | 8 | ... | - | ..... | - |
| May | ... | ... | 14 | ..... | 8 | ... | - | ..... | 2 |
| June | ... | ... | 1 | ..... | 14 | ... | - | ..... | - |
| July | ... | ... | 6 | ..... | 1 | ... | - | ..... | - |
| August | ... | ... | 16 | ..... | 10 | ... | - | ..... | - |
| September | ... | ... | 6 | ..... | 20 | ... | - | ..... | - |
| October | ... | ... | 9 | ..... | 5 | ... | - | ..... | - |
| November | ... | ... | 7 | ..... | 6 | ... | - | ..... | - |
| December | ... | ... | 2 | ..... | 2 | ... | - | ..... | - |
| TOTALS | ... | ... | 95 | ..... | 116 | ... | 4 | ..... | 11 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Total number of children in 0 - 5 age group completed immunisation during the year : - | 127 |
| Estimated number of children in 0 - 5 age group in Borough | 401 |
| Total number of above now immunised | 390 |
| Percentage | 97% |

Diphtheria Immunization

The following table shows the progress of immunization among pre-school children during the year: -

| Month | Naturally and Child Welfare Centres | | Special Clinics | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| | 1st | 2nd | 1st | 2nd |
| January | ... | 14 | ... | - |
| February | ... | 8 | ... | 2 |
| March | ... | 8 | ... | - |
| April | ... | 4 | ... | - |
| May | ... | 14 | ... | 2 |
| June | ... | 1 | ... | - |
| July | ... | 6 | ... | - |
| August | ... | 16 | ... | - |
| September | ... | 6 | ... | - |
| October | ... | 9 | ... | - |
| November | ... | 7 | ... | - |
| December | ... | 2 | ... | - |
| TOTALS | ... | 95 | ... | 11 |

Total number of children in 0 - 5 age group completed immunization during the year: - 12
 Estimated number of children in 0 - 5 age group in Borough 40
 Total number of above now immunised 39
 Percentage 97